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009500 7500 09/21/2004

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(Depositor's name)	
(Signature)	
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/956,912	09/21/2001	Osamu Kakinuma	212903US3	2653

TITLE OF INVENTION: BRANCH PIPE JOINT AND METHOD OF CONNECTING PIPES USING THE PIPE JOINT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES	<del>\$1330</del> \$685.	\$300	<del>\$1630</del> \$985	12/21/2004
EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS			
BOCHNA, DAVID	3679	029-890140			

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363). <input type="checkbox"/> Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached. <input type="checkbox"/> "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.	2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.	<u>OBLON, SPIVAK,</u> <u>MCCLELLAND, MAIER</u> <u>&amp; NEUSTADT, P.C.</u>
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3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

12/03/2004 NNGUYEN2 00000208 09956912

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE KAKINUMA KINZOKU SEIKI CO., LTD.	(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY) Tokyo, JAPAN	01 FC:2501 02 FC:1504	685.00 OP 300.00 OP
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Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent):  Individual  Corporation or other private group entity  Government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

Issue Fee  
 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)  
 Advance Order - # of Copies -0-

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A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.  
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
 The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 15-0030 (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.  
 b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above. NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant, a registered attorney or agent, or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature

Joseph Scafetta, Jr.

Typed or printed name

Date Dec. 3, 2004

Reg. No. 26,803

Registration No.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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